country completed by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in 1987, the hydro electric potential of the State of West Bengal in terms of probable installed capacity was assessed as 2,841 MW. The details of the 7 schemes identified in the State are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	River/Basin	Probable Installed Capacity (MW)
1.	Rammam I	Rammam	70
2.	Rammam II	Rammam	85
3.	Rammam III	Rammam	100
4.	Tista high dam	Tista	2505
5.	Jaldhaka I	Jaldhaka	36
6.	Jaldhaka II	Jaldhaka	12
7.	Balasan	Balasan	33
	TOTAL :		2841

All these schemes are located in North Bengal.

UMPP at Sasan

2196. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ownership pattern of the lowest bidder for the Ultra-Mega Power Project (UMPP) at Sasan has changed;

(b) if so, the details of the same and its impact on their eligibility as per the bid conditions;

(c) if not, whether the techno-economic reasonability of the tariff quoted by the lowest bidder has been assessed vis-a-vis cost of similar project elsewhere with proven technology and performance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The lead member of the lowest bidding consortium viz. M/s. Globeleq Singapore Pte. Ltd. (GSPL) has sent a communication informating the

special purpose vehicle (SPV) that the holding Company, M/s. Globeleq Ltd. has sold its 100% interest in GSPL to M/s. Prince Stone Investments Ltd., Mauritius (60%) and M/s. Jindal Steel and Power Ltd. (40%). The impact on eligibility of M/s. Globeleq Singapore Pte. Ltd. is being examined by the SPV under the provisions of the bidding documents etc.

(c) and (d) The guidelines for tariff based competitive bidding, issued by the Central Government under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003, provides that the bidder who has quoted the lowest levelized tariff as per the evaluation procedure, shall be considered for the award. The evaluation committee have the right to reject all price bids if the rates quoted are not aligned to the prevailing market prices. The evaluation of bids in respect of Sasan UMPP was carried out through an Apex Level Evaluation Committee, which also had senior representatives of major procuring States *viz.* M.P., U.P. and Haryana, in accordance with the evaluation procedure prescribed in the bid document.

Alliance between PGCIL and AEP

2197. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. had discussions with American Electric Power to explore the possibilities of forming a strategic alliance for executing transmission projects in the United States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an MoU has been signed between PGCIL and AEP; and

(d) what are the modalities fixed for strategic alliance to set up transmission system in the US?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) have informed that representatives of American Electric Power (AEP), USA visited PGCIL during last week of January, 2007 and briefed them about emerging opportunities in the transmission sector of USA. AEP invited PGCIL to jointly explore the implementation of new transmission lines in USA. PGCIL have sought details on the project and modalities of cooperation from AEP.